

ABSTRACT

Methods and apparatuses for multicast traffic control protocol pruning in a layer 2 network. A layer 2 device such as a switch with a plurality of ports includes a multicast traffic control protocol pruning algorithm executable from the layer 2 device to control multicast traffic in the layer 2 network. The layer 2 device further includes a multicast traffic control protocol querier selection algorithm executable from the layer 2 device to send multicast traffic control protocol queries to a layer 2 network which includes the layer 2 device. The layer 2 device includes the multicast traffic control protocol querier algorithm as part of its multicast traffic control protocol pruning capabilities. A separate multicast router to generate the multicast traffic control protocol queries can be eliminated from the system, thereby decreasing cost and complexity.